

For nearly 50 years, the Bowl of Hygeia award program has been a vehicle to encourage pharmacists to excel beyond their standard job duties and pay back their communities through exceptional public service. Dr. Demler is a well deserving recipient of this award.

Currently, Dr. Demler is the Director of Pharmacy Services for the Buffalo Psychiatric Center. She additionally serves as the Program Director for the Post Doctoral Pharmacy Residency Program at the University of Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

In addition to her impressive career, Dr. Demler's leadership has been recognized by her peers as she was the first woman elected President of the Pharmacists Society of the State of New York in the organization's 125-year history.

Dr. Demler's dedication to the community has included participation as the Erie County Site Staging manager for the Specialized Medical Assistance Response Team (SMART), organizing the world class Taste of Buffalo as a member of the Board of Directors and Restaurant committee. In addition she has been able to use her professional skills in pharmacy to host her own TV segment on WNY Tonight.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of the her dedication to our community and improving the lives of Western New Yorkers, I ask this Honorable Body to join me in congratulating Dr. Tammie Lee Demler for being awarded the prestigious Bowl of Hygeia award.

INTRODUCING THE ESTABLISHING GRANTS FOR COLLEGE ACCESS AND COMPLETION PROGRAM

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 2009

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Establishing Grants for College Access and Completion Act of 2009, a bill to increase the number of low-income students from underserved populations and disadvantaged backgrounds who enter and complete college.

It is well established that students from low-income families are 30 percent less likely to have access to higher education, but the disparity in graduation rates are more pronounced: only 20 percent of the lowest-income students are projected to graduate with a bachelor's degree by 2012, compared to 68 percent of the highest income students.

This bill would authorize Federal funding for the Grants for College Access and Completion program, a competitive grant program to support innovative and effective approaches that are currently improving college-going and college-graduation rates for low-income, high-promise students. Eligible organizations would need to show a proven track record of success in increasing the number of students from low-income and disadvantaged populations who enter and remain in college, and have an independent scholarship program supported by non-Federal dollars. Any eligible organization, under this bill, would be able to enter into partnerships with other entities to

improve their ability to effectively reach low-income and disadvantaged students.

This bill was written to use taxpayers' money wisely. The Federal grants would be used to provide mentoring, academic support, and supportive services to prepare low-income students to attend institutions of higher education, with 15 percent of the funds coming from non-Federal sources. This bill does not provide any money for scholarships; rather, it will be required that the grantees have established and successful scholarship programs. Finally, the bill has an annual reporting requirement of grantees, so that the Secretary can keep close track of their performance.

For example, efforts are currently underway and proven to improve graduation rates of this student population. A Washington State-based foundation, the College Success Foundation, formerly the Washington Education Foundation, is leading the way, by encouraging low-income and disadvantaged students to pursue higher education, and providing them with support and mentoring services to ensure their continued success in college.

Almost 90 percent of today's fastest growing jobs require some postsecondary education. Students who do not attend and graduate from college are increasingly finding themselves shut out of well-paying jobs. Statistics show that an individual without a high school diploma will earn approximately \$1,100,000 less in their lifetime than an individual with a bachelor's degree. Finally, statistics show that the children of college graduates, and even their children's children, are more likely to go on to graduate from institutes of higher education. Should my bill become law, and help students attend and graduate from college, their expected lifetime earnings will more than pay for the little sums of money appropriated through this legislation.

I urge my colleagues to consider this important bill.

HONORING DR. ABE SILVERSTEIN

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 2009

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Abe Silverstein, an American engineer who played an important part in the United States space program.

Dr. Silverstein was born in 1908 in Terre Haute, Indiana, and earned a B.S. in mechanical engineering (1929) and an M.E. (1934) from the Rose Polytechnic Institute. In 1929, Dr. Silverstein was hired by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) at the Langley research center to work on the design of the Altitude Wind Tunnel. While there, he also directed research which led to increased high-speed performance of most of the combat aircraft of World War II. His work contributed to development of present day supersonic aircrafts.

Dr. Silverstein helped at NASA headquarters to help with the space flights of Project Mercury and the Apollo program. He was also chair to the government commission The Silverstein Committee.

Dr. Silverstein received several awards for his work. In 1984, NASA named him an "Elder Statesman of Aviation." On August 14, 1997, Dr. Silverstein was the recipient of the Guggenheim Medal for significant contributions to the advancement of flight. He later retired to Ohio and spent his winters in Cape Coral.

I would like to recognize Dr. Silverstein for his contributions to this country and we are proud of all his accomplishments. His lifetime achievements are truly commendable.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN CYPRUS

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to urge the U.S. to join in the efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the dispute in Cyprus.

The United States, United Nations, United Kingdom, European Union are just a few countries and international organizations who have long been engaged in the efforts to bring about a negotiated compromise to the dispute in Cyprus. I feel it is time that such an agreement is reached. Moreover, I'm pleased that at the end of last year, the Greek Cypriot Leader, Demetris Christofias, and Turkish Cypriot Leader, Mehmet Ali Talat, began U.N.-sponsored peace talks to try to find a solution to the ongoing situation in Cyprus.

I believe this Administration should also take an active role to bring about a solution that would be beneficial for both Cypriot communities. This ongoing disagreement pits two NATO allies, Greece and Turkey, against each other, and therefore, we must quickly find a mutually agreed upon solution.

Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, Philip Gordon, testified that "resolution of the Cyprus problem will have a tremendous impact on the region by strengthening peace, justice, and prosperity on the island, advancing Turkey's European Union accession, improving NATO-EU cooperation and removing a source of friction between two NATO Allies, Greece and Turkey."

I agree with the Assistant Secretary Gordon's sentiments and hope the Administration takes the appropriate actions to ensure that an accord is achieved. Any agreement must lead Cyprus to an independent government where both Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities have equal political rights similar to the 1994 Annan Plan. The Annan Plan would have set up a confederation of two component states—the Greek Cypriot State and the Turkish Cypriot State. Both Cypriot communities would be joined together by a federal government mirrored after the Swiss federal model. The plan included a federal constitution, constitutions for each constituent state, and a string of constitutional and federal laws. It also provided for a Reconciliation Commission to bring the two Cypriot communities closer together and resolve outstanding disputes from the past.

Such a bi-zonal and bi-communal agreement is the best approach and I urge the Administration to actively participate in the peaceful re-unification process in Cyprus.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3170) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chair, today I rise today in support of the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2010, and to commend Chairman SERRANO and the subcommittee for their hard work in crafting this bill. I urge my colleagues to support it.

This bill will fund many of the agencies we rely upon to protect consumers, taxpayers and investors, which has become so increasingly important over the past year. The housing, financial services and economic crises have created a tidal wave of repercussions, all of which have substantially increased the burdens and demands on these agencies. Therefore, I am pleased to support the increased funding in this bill for these purposes.

For example, the bill includes more than \$1 billion for the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), an increase of \$76 million from Fiscal Year 2009. This funding will enable the SEC to hire an additional 140 investigators, attorneys, and analysts, and thus substantially increase its enforcement capacity. We need to do more to improve the effectiveness of the SEC than simply adding staff, but this is a very important first step.

In addition, the bill includes \$292 million in funding for the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), more than \$30 million more than was provided, in Fiscal Year 2009. The FTC is responsible for investigating and prosecuting unfair and deceptive trade practices, including foreclosure rescue scams, and predatory payday-lending, credit-repair and debt-collection services, all of which have been rampant during the current crisis.

Also included is \$113 million for the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), a modest increase from Fiscal Year 2009 which will help the CPSC continue to protect the American people from dangerous and unsafe products. Although the CPSC continues to work through implementation issues related to the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act, I support the Act, and the CPSC's continuing efforts to implement it in a fair and equitable manner, and the funding included in this bill will enable it to do that.

The bill also includes increased funding for the Inspectors General of the Department of the Treasury (\$30 million), the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (\$38 million) and the SEC (\$4.4 million), to enhance their respective abilities to ensure that the agencies are functioning effectively and without wasting taxpayer dollars. In addition, it requires the Department of the Treasury to report to Congress on the progress of the entities overseeing the Troubled Assets Relief Program (TARP) in implementing their recommendations for TARP reform, and protecting taxpayer investments.

To help stimulate the economy, the bill includes almost \$850 million, an increase of more than \$230 million, in funding to the Small Business Administration (SBA). These funds will enable the SBA to provide \$28 billion in new loans to small businesses despite the continuing credit crunch, as well as \$25 million in new micro-lending. In addition, it provides \$110 million for Small Business Development Centers and \$8 million for technical assistance to low-income small business owners.

It also includes \$244 million, an increase of \$137 million from Fiscal Year 2009, for Community Development Financial Institutions, which help provide credit to low-income communities. The funding includes \$80 million to launch a competitive grant program for the purpose of renovating and developing low-income housing.

And I am particularly pleased to say that, despite attempts in committee and on the floor to cut this funding in half, the bill includes \$100 million in Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funding to enable states to improve the administration of elections and protect the integrity of the vote count. Voting is the foundation of our democracy—it is the right through which we preserve all others. Everything of value must be auditable, and that is especially true of our votes. That is why it is so important that states using paperless systems have all the funding they need to convert to paper ballot voting systems before the next general election, and that all states have the funding they need to conduct audits of electronic vote tallies.

Although it has been argued that the states have not claimed all of their appropriated HAVA funding, and that they therefore must not need it, this argument disregards an important fact. In order to claim their HAVA funding, States must first appropriate 5 percent matching funds from their own coffers. This was extremely challenging in 2008, given the crushing fiscal burdens on States simply to meet their basic fiscal needs. And Fiscal Year 2009 bill that appropriated additional HAVA funding was not enacted into law until March 2009; therefore, it is too early to determine how many states will be able to begin appropriating the required matching funds as the economic recovery progresses. Therefore, it is not that the states do not need this money; it is that they cannot afford it. This is why my Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act of 2009, which would require paper ballot voting systems and routine random audits as a national standard, removes the matching funds requirement.

In 2010, seven entire states and counties in a dozen others will not be able to independently verify the electronic tallies in their elections unless they use their HAVA funding to deploy accessible paper ballot voting systems now. Every jurisdiction in the country that has made a voting system change since 2006 has done this. It is time to make it a national standard. I thank the Subcommittee Chairman SERRANO for his staunch support for and defense of this funding, and for engaging in a colloquy on the floor with me about it earlier today.

This bill funds many agencies that play a critical role in protecting consumers, investors and taxpayers, and in stimulating the economy, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

RESTORE OUR AMERICAN MUSTANGS ACT

HON. LOIS CAPPs

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 2009

Mrs. CAPPs. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1018, the Restore Our American Mustangs Act. This timely legislation would help ensure the safety of wild horses and burros while saving the American tax payers millions of dollars. This is commonsense legislation that will establish a humane process for managing the large population of free-roaming horses and burros in the West.

The American horse is a symbol of the American West, yet we have failed to responsibly manage this great animal. The current BLM management system consists of forcing these wild horses to roam land that is too small to support them and then rounding up excess horses to be sold, adopted, or slaughtered. This process is inhumane, ineffective, and very expensive.

This bill will improve our current system in several ways.

First, the BLM currently rounds up thousands of perfectly healthy horses and places them in holding facilities to await adoption or slaughter. By strengthening the adoption process and utilizing contraception methods, as this bill proposes, we will drastically reduce the number of excess horses, thus reducing the need for the expensive holding facilities.

Second, this legislation will close a loophole that allows horses and burros to be sold for slaughter. While there are no slaughter houses in the United States, this loophole allows people to buy excess horses and ship them to Mexico to be slaughtered. This is clearly not the intent of the current law and we must close this shameful loop-hole.

Third, this bill will save the tax payer millions of dollars. Holding facilities are very expensive. In fact, in 2008 alone, the BLM spent a third of its budget, \$27 million, on the upkeep and operation of holding facilities.

And finally, this legislation will end the BLM's practice of constantly reducing the range size for wild horses and burros. Specifically, this bill urges the BLM to restore wild horses to the full 19 million public land acres that were originally designated for their habitat.

Mr. Speaker, the Restore Our American Mustangs Act is good legislation for both wild horses and tax payers. We must pass this legislation and implement these humane policies to protect this symbol of the American West.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in the supporting this timely legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, on Friday July 17, 2009 I was unable to be in Washington, DC due to a funeral and thus missed rollcall votes No. 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, and 592. Had I been